

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An instrument for positioning a cup component of an orthopaedic joint prosthesis, the cup component having a mouth and an inner surface with a circumferential groove, the instrument comprising: which comprises
_____ a shaft having a shaft axis and a distal end; and
_____ a housing attached to the distal end of the shaft, the housing extending from the shaft transversely relative to the shaft axis, the housing comprising a base plate; and
_____ a flange portion carried on the shaft, the flange portion being configured to be movable relative to the base plate in a direction transverse to the shaft axis towards the end of the shaft on which the cup component can be fixed, which extends from the shaft transversely, and which can be retracted from between an in-use position, where in which the flange portion is can be received in the a groove in the internal surface of the cup component, when positioned over the said end of the instrument, and a retracted position where in which the flange portion is moved withdrawn towards the shaft axis of the shaft from the in-use position, allowing so as to allow the cup component to be released from the instrument, in which the instrument includes a transverse support which extends generally parallel to the flange, and in which the flange comprises at least two radially spaced apart flange portions, at least one of the flange portions being retractable as specified above while being supported by the support, the movement of the retractable flange portion between the retracted and in-use positions being in a direction which is parallel to the support, and wherein the retractable flange portion is biased being biased towards the in-use position.
2. (Currently Amended) The An instrument of as claimed in claim 1, wherein in which the retractable flange portion is biased biased towards the in-use position by means of a spring element which is made of a material which is different from that of the flange portion.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The An~~ instrument ~~of as claimed in claim 1, wherein in which~~ the housing support further comprises an opposing plate, and the presents a pair of opposite support surfaces and the retractable flange portion is slidably disposed slides between the base plate and the opposing plate them.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The An~~ instrument ~~of as claimed in claim 1, wherein in which~~ the base plate is planar and has a plate surface and the support presents a support surface which the side of the retractable flange portion is planar and has a flange surface, and the plate surface of the base plate and flange surface of the flange portion are configured to slide relative to one another in the direction transverse to the shaft axis. facing towards the end of the instrument can slide against.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The An~~ instrument ~~of as claimed in claim 2, wherein in which~~ the spring element is formed from a non-metallic material.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The An~~ instrument ~~of as claimed in claim 2, wherein in which~~ the spring element is disposed positioned between the flange portion and the axis of the shaft, and is compressed elastically by the flange portion when the flange portion is moved from the its in-use position towards the its retracted position.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The An~~ instrument ~~of as claimed in claim 6, wherein in which~~ the spring element comprises an O-ring which is positioned between the retractable flange portion and the shaft.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The An~~ instrument ~~of as claimed in claim 1, wherein in which~~ the retractable flange portion is formed from a non-deformable material.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The An~~ instrument ~~of as claimed in claim 1, wherein in which~~ the retractable flange portion is formed from a metal.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An instrument of as claimed in claim 1, which includes a wherein the base plate which is fixed relative to the shaft with the flange between the plate and the said end of the shaft, has a surface configured to engage the for engaging the open-mouth of the cup component to apply force to the cup component when the flange portion is in the in-use position. it, in which the edge of the plate is chamfered so that its transverse dimension is greatest at about the surface which contacts the cup component.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An instrument of as claimed in claim 1, wherein in which the face of the flange portion comprises a chamfered edge that is configured to contact the inner surface of the cup component when the flange portion is in the in-use position. which faces towards the said end of the shaft is chamfered at its edge.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An instrument of as claimed in claim 1, wherein the flange portion which comprises at least three radially spaced apart flange portions.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An instrument of as claimed in claim 1, further comprising which includes a soft cap at least partially disposed about the shaft and which is positioned between the flange and the distal said end of the shaft, and which at least partially surrounds the end of the shaft.

14. (Currently Amended) An assembly, comprising ~~which comprises~~ an instrument as claimed in claim 1, and a cup component of a joint prosthesis.

15. (New) The instrument of claim 2, wherein the base plate has at least one base plate hole and the flange portion has at least one flange hole, and further comprising a collar having at least one pin extending distally from the collar, the collar slidably connected to the shaft so as to slide between a first position, where the flange is in the in-use position, and a second position, where the pins are at least partially disposed within the at least one base plate hole and the at least one flange hole.

16. (New) The instrument of claim 15, wherein the flange portion has an upstand configured to contact the spring, the upstand being displaced towards the shaft axis when the collar is in the second position to thereby move the flange from the in-use position to the retracted position.
17. (New) The instrument of claim 16, wherein, when the collar is in the second position, the upstand compresses the spring.
18. (New) The instrument of claim 15, wherein the flange and base plate are configured such that, when the collar is in the first position, the at least one base plate hole and the at least one flange hole are not aligned.